

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 448 - SB 525

March 25, 2015

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Department of Education to provide local education agencies (LEAs) the test questions, students' answer options, and each student's answers from the Tennessee Comprehensive Achievement Program (TCAP) and end-of-course examinations after such tests have been administered. Such reports shall be made available for examination by the teacher, student, and the student's parent or guardian. Requires LEAs to make the reports, except for test answers that could be attributed to a specific student, available for examination by any stakeholder. States that Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-607, shall not apply if individuals are reporting actual test questions, answer options, or student answers pursuant to Section 1 of the bill.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$16,000,000/FY15-16

Exceeds \$17,000,000/FY16-17 and Subsequent Years

Assumptions:

- Currently state law requires standardized test items to be at least 70 percent refreshed and non-redundant each year.
- Under this bill, the DOE will need to generate a 100 percent new test each fiscal year, beginning in FY15-16.
- Each test will require annual field testing which will include administration, scoring, reporting, and psychometric services.
- The DOE has provided a detailed breakout of the difference in state expenditures between what the state is currently spending on assessments and the increase in state expenditures to meet the requirements of this bill.
- The total increase in state expenditures in FY15-16 is estimated to be \$16,000,000, which includes field testing of new tests; refreshing all test questions; psychometric services; scoring; and other budget items relative to test administration.
- The increase in state expenditures in FY16-17 and subsequent years is estimated to exceed \$17,000,000.
- LEAs will provide the required information to stakeholders in the normal course of business without an increase in personnel or a reduction in other budget expenditures.

CERTIFICATION:

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The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jeffrey L. Spalding". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "S".

Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

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